CLAIMS

1. Use of an α -aminoamide of formula (I):



wherein:

A is a $-(CH_2)_m$ - or $-(CH_2)_n$ -X-, wherein m is 1 or 2; n is zero, 1 or 2; and X is -O-, -S- or -NH-;

R is a furyl, thienyl, or pyridyl ring or a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_3 alkoxy and trifluoromethyl;

 R_1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

 R_2 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or phenyl; phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from C_1 - C_3 alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy or trifluoromethyl;

 R_3 is hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

if the case, either as a single isomer, or as a mixture thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of head pain conditions.

2. Use of an α -aminoamide according to claim 1, wherein in formula (I):

A is a group selected from $-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-O-$;

R is a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_3 alkyl or a methoxy group; or a thienyl ring;

 R_1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 alkyl;

 R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or phenyl unsubstituted or substituted by C_1-C_2 alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, methoxy or trifluoromethyl; and

 R_3 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 alkyl.

3. Use of an α -aminoamide according to claim 1 or 2,

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wherein in formula (I):

A is $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-S-$ or $-CH_2-CH_2-$;

R is a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two halogen atoms;

R₁ is hydrogen;

 R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by a halogen atom; and

R₃ is hydrogen or methyl.

- 4. Use of an α -aminoamide according to claim 1, wherein the α -aminoamide is selected from:
 - 2-(4-benzyloxybenzylamino)propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(2-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(4-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-N-methyl-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-N-methyl-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-propanamide;
 - 2-(4-benzyloxybenzylamino)-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;
- 2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;
- 2-[4-(2-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;
- 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;
- 2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;
 - 2-(4-(2-thienylmethylenoxy)benzylamino)-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-(2-(3-fluorophenyl)ethyl)benzylamino]-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-benzylthiobenzylamino]-propanamide;
 - 2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino]-3-phenyl-N-methylpropanamide;
 - 2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino] N-methylbutanamide;
 - 2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

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2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

- 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(2-fluorophenyl)-acetamide;
- 2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(3-fluorophenyl)-acetamide;
- 2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(3-fluorophenyl)-acetamide;
- if the case, either as a single isomer or as a mixture thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 5. Use of an α -aminoamide according to any of the previous claims, wherein the α -aminoamide is selected from: (S)-(+)-2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-propanamide, (S)-(+)-2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-propanamide and (S)-(+)-2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-propanamide.
- 6. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the head pain conditions are involving a cerebral vasodilatation mechanism.
- 7. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein head pain conditions are both primary and secondary headache disorders.
- 8. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the primary headache disorders derive from the intense pain of acute migraine or cluster headaches or from vascular mechanisms; and the secondary headache disorders derive from infection, metabolic disorders, or other systemic illnesses.
- 9. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein head pain conditions include migraine, headache, neuralgia, hemicrania, facial pain and arachnoiditis.
- 10. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein migraine is acute, transformed or vascular migraine; headache is acute, cluster, evolutive or tension type headache; neuralgia is trigeminal neuralgia; hemicrania is chronic paroxysmal hemicrania.
 - 11. A method for the treatment of head pain conditions in a

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mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective dose of at least one α -aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in any of claims 1 to 5.

- 12. A method according to the previous claim, wherein the mammal is administered a dose of the α -aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in any of claims 1 to 5 which ranges from about 0.05 to 20 mg/kg body weight per day.
- 13. A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the mammal is administered a dose of the α -aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in any of claims 1 to 5 which ranges from about 0.5 to 10 mg/kg day.
- 14. A method according to any of claims from 11 to 13, wherein the mammal is administered a dose of the α -aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in any of claims 1 to 5 which ranges from about 0.5 to 5 mg/kg day.
- 15. A method according to any of claims from 11 to 14, wherein the head pain conditions are as defined in any of claims 6 to 10.